

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT OF COIMBATORE CITY BY REMOTE SENSING AND GIS

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Abstract—Sustainability assessment is a very crucial task which is necessary to be computed for every region in order to understand the development of any region. Sustainability is the horizon which all departments are focusing in this generation. If sustainability left unconsidered the world is expected to face an environmental catastrophe. The assessment of sustainable development is necessary for every developed and developing nation. This can be made feasible using the remote sensing and GIS technique. The sustainability development depends on various factors among which the natural resources play a vital role. The importance of natural resources in sustainability development is discussed in this paper. The temporal satellite imagery of Coimbatore city has been obtained in order to analyze the sustainable development of Coimbatore city. The major classes of natural resources have been extracted from the land use / land cover map and sustainability based on natural resources has been assessed. From the results obtained it is well understood that the sustainability of the city has been decreasing yearly to a certain extent

INTRODUCTION

Sustainable development is a process of meeting human development goals while sustaining the ability of nature systems to provide the natural resources and eco-system services upon which the economy and society depends. Sustainable development has its focus more on economic development, social development and environmental protection, among which natural resources play a vital role. Ability to access and process information quickly while displaying it in a spatial and visual medium allows organization to improve decision making and promote better organization integration and knowledge management.

Sustainable development is the organizing principle for meeting human development goals while at the same time sustaining the ability of natural systems to provide the natural resource and ecosystem services upon which the economy and society depends. The desirable end result is the state of society were living conditions and resource use continue to meet human needs without undermining the integrity and stability of natural systems.

While the modern concept of sustainable development is derived mostly from the 1987 Brundtland report, it is also routed in earlier ideas about sustainable forest management and twentieth century environmental concerns. As the concept developed, it has shifted to focus more on economic development, social development and environmental production for future generations. It has been suggested that the term ‘sustainability’ should be viewed as humanity’s target goal of human-ecosystem equilibrium, while sustainable development refers to the holistic approach and temporal processes that lead us to the end point of sustainability. The concept of sustainable development has been and still is subject of criticism. This can be achieved using GIS technique.

1.1 IMPORTANCE OF SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

Bringing out sustainable development is the major criteria which each department faces in recent days. Assessment of sustainability is a tedious task as, sustainability depends upon various factors.

But it is essential to bring out a procedure to assess the sustainability. We have proposed to carry out a project to assess the sustainability of Coimbatore city considering the impact of natural resources in sustainability.

1.2 SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is defined as a requirement of our generation to manage the resource base such that the present generation can be satisfied with the natural resources without compromising the future demands. The effect due to the loss of sustainability is the global warming which is the major problem of the planet earth. Global warming is the increase of earth’s average surface temperature due to the effect of green house gases, such as carbon dioxide emission from burning fossil fuels or from deforestation, which trap heat that would otherwise escape from earth.

2.1 AIM

To analyze and assess the sustainability of Coimbatore city from the satellite imagery using image interpretation and GIS technique.

2.2 OBJECTIVES

Satellite On Board	Type	Spectrum	Spectral Range (μm)	Multi-Spectral Resolution	Resolution Class
IRS1C&IR S1D	Imaging multi-spectral radiometers(visible/IR)	VIS	~0.40- ~0.75	23.5x 23.5	Medium (20m-200m)
		NIR	~0.7 - ~1.3		
		SWIR	~1.3 - ~3.0		

The objectives of the present study are:

- To identify the factors that influence the sustainability of a region
- To analyze the impact of the factors affecting sustainability using temporal satellite data.
- To assess the sustainability of Coimbatore city and its rate of variation using GIS technique.

STUDY AREA AND DATA DESCRIPTION

The Coimbatore city region is taken into consideration to assess the sustainability. Remote sensing and GIS technique are proposed to be adopted for sustainability assessment. Image processing software and GIS software has been used for this application.

3.1 STUDY AREA

Table 3.1 Specifications of LISS III Sensor

District in the north and Erode district in the north-east. It is one of the fast growing tier – 1 cities in India and a major hub for textiles, industries, commerce, education, information technology, healthcare and manufacturing in Tamil Nadu. It is often referred to as the ‘Manchester of South India’ due to its cotton production and textile industries. Coimbatore city lies at Coimbatore is a major city in Tamil Nadu on the south of India. It is bounded by Tirupur district in the east, Nilgris 11°0’45” N latitude and 76°58’17”E with an area of 95.41 km². The IRS (Indian Remote Sensing) satellite from a large family of Earth observation satellites operated by Indian space agency is the important remote sensing system. IRS 1C and IRS 1D were launched in 1995 and 1997 respectively. These satellites carry LISS-III sensor as well as wide field of AWiFS sensor. LISS-III (Linear Imaging Self Scanning Sensor) sensor imagery is taken as the primary data.

3.2 SOFTWARE USED

Two softwares were exclusively used for this study. For image processing and classification ERDAS Imagine software was used. ArcGIS is a geographic information system (GIS) for working with maps and geographic information. ArcGIS software was used for preparation of maps and for assessment of sustainability in Coimbatore city.

3.4.1 ERDAS Imagine

ERDAS Imagine is a remote sensing application with raster graphics editor abilities designed by ERDAS for geospatial applications. The latest version is 2015. ERDAS Imagine is aimed primarily at geospatial raster data processing and allows the user to prepare, display and enhance digital images for mapping use in geographic information system (GIS) or in computer-aided design (CAD) software. It is a toolbox allowing the user to perform numerous operations on an image and generate an answer to specific geographical questions.

By manipulating imagery data values and positions, it is possible to see features that would normally be visible and to locate geo-positions of features that would otherwise be graphical. The level of brightness or reflectance of light from the surfaces in the image can be helpful with vegetation analysis, prospecting for minerals etc. Other usage examples include linear feature extraction, generation of processing work flows (“spatial models” in ERDAS IMAGINE), import/export of data for a wide variety of formats, ortho-rectification, mosaicing of imagery, stereo and automatic feature extraction of map data from imagery.

3.4.2 ArcGIS

ArcGIS is a geographic information system(GIS) for working with maps and geographic information. It is used for creating and using maps, compiling geographic data, analyzing mapped information, sharing/discovering geographic information in a range of applications and managing geographic information in database.

ArcGIS includes the following Windows desktop software:

- ArcReader, which allows one to view and query maps created with other ArcGIS products.
- ArcGIS for Desktop Basic.
- ArcGIS for Desktop Standard.
- ArcGIS for Desktop Advanced

4.2.1 Data Collection

Data collection is the process of gathering and measuring information on targeted variables in an established systematic fashion, which then evaluate outcomes.

The goal for all data collections is to capture quality evidence that then translate to rich data analysis and allows the building of a convincing and credible answer to questions that have been posed.

4.2.2 Satellite imagery

Satellite imagery may consist of images of Earth or other planets collected by satellite. Imaging satellites are operated by governments and space organizations around the world.

4.2.3 Temporal data

A Temporal data base is a data base with built in support for handling data involving time being related to the slowly changing dimensions concept, for example a temporal data model and a temporal version of structured query language

4.2.4 Digitization

Digitization is the process of converting information into digital format. In this format, information is organized into discrete units of data that can be separately. Using digitization process the Coimbatore city shape file was extracted from the toposheet.

4.2.5 Shape file

The shapefile format is a popular geospatial vector data format for Geographic Information System(GIS) software. It is a developed and regulated by ESRI as an open specification for data interoperability among ESRI and other GIS software products.

4.2.6 Layer stacking

Several types of measurement may be made from the ground area covered by a single pixel. Each type of measurement forms an image which carry some specific information about the area. By 'stacking' these images from the same area together, a multilayer image is formed. Each component image is a layer in the multilayer image.

Multilayer images can also be formed by combining images obtained from different sensors, and other subsidiary data.

4.2.7 Multispectral image

A multispectral image consists of a few image layers, each layer represents an image acquired at a particular wavelength band. The LISS III image consists of four bands. This case is that, each pixel of the scene has four intensity values corresponding to the four bands.

4.2.8 Mosaicing

It is the process of combining multiple photographic images with overlapping fields of view to produce a segmented panorama or high-resolution image. Commonly performed through the use of computer software, most approaches to image stitching require merely exact overlaps between images and identical exposures to produce seamless results, although some stitching algorithms actually benefit from differently exposed images by doing HDR (High Dynamic Range) imaging in regions of overlap. Some digital cameras can stitch their photos internally. Image stitching is widely used in today's world in applications such as high resolution photo mosaics in digital maps and satellite photos, medical imaging, multi-image super-resolution, video stitching and object insertion.

4.2.9 Image Classification

Image classification refers to the task of extracting information classes from a multiband raster image. The resulting raster from image classification can be used to create thematic maps. Depending on the interaction between the analyst and the computer during classification, there are two types of classification.

- Supervised classification
- Un supervised classification

With the Arc GIS spatial analyst extension, there is a full suite of tools in the multivariate toolset to perform supervised and unsupervised classification. The classification process is a multi-step workflow, therefore, the image classification toolbar has been developed to provide an integrated environment to perform classification with the tools. Not only does the toolbar help with the workflow for performing unsupervised and supervised classification. It also contains additional functionality for analyzing input data, creating training samples and signature files. The recommended way to perform classification and multivariate analysis is through the image classification toolbar.

Supervised classification used the spectral signatures obtained from training samples to classify an image. With the assistance of the image classification toolbar, you can easily create training sample to represent the classes you want extract. You can also easily create a signature file from the training samples, which is then used by the multivariate classification tools to classify the image.

Unsupervised classification finds spectral classes in a multiband image without the analysts intervention. The image classification toolbar aids in unsupervised classification by providing access to the tools to create the clusters, capability to analyze the quality of the clusters, and access to classification tools.

4.2.10 Sustainability Assessment

Sustainability assessment is a complex appraisal method it is conducted for supporting decision making and policy in abroad environmental context and transcend a purely technical & scientific evaluation.

RESULTS

The sustainability of any region can be analyzed based on various factors which influences the sustainability of any region. The major factor which affects the sustainability of any region is the natural resources which has been considered in this study. Based on the yearly changes in the natural resources, sustainability has been assessed.

.Area coverage of each class in 2010

CLASSES	AREA (sq.km)
Built up	46.69
Water	1.71
Forest	18.17
Vegetation	23.24
Barren land	5.02

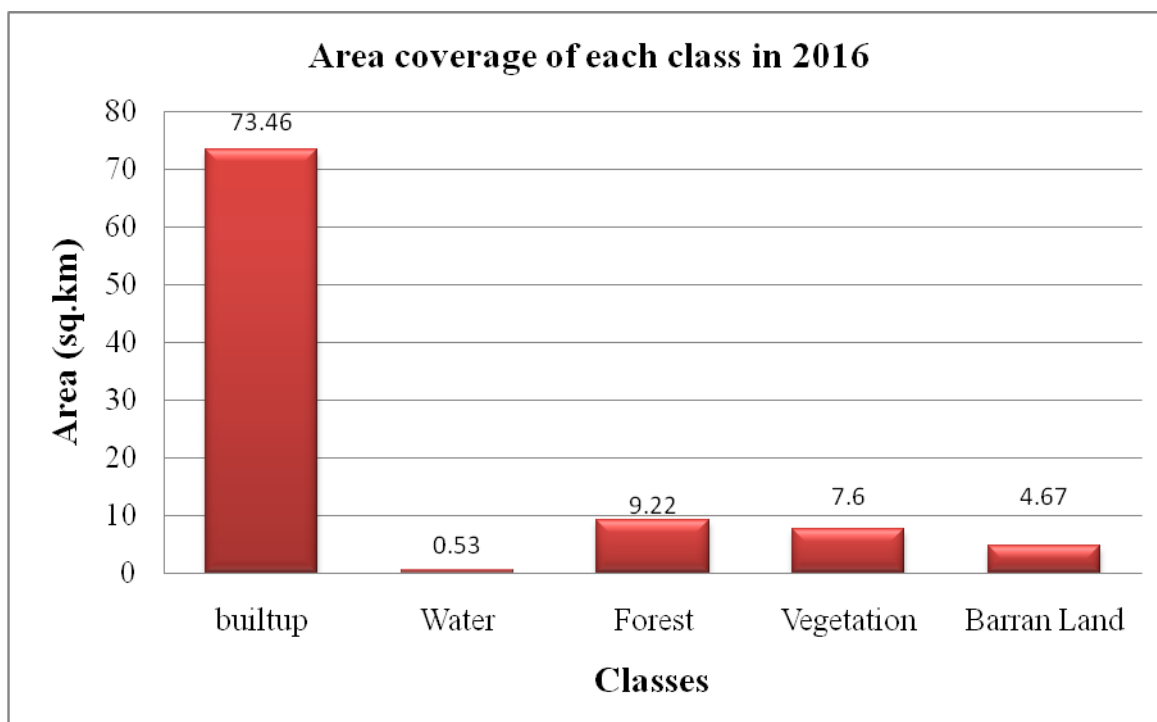


Fig 5.8 Area coverage of each class (2016)

CONCLUSION

The sustainability development has become the goal of day – to – day life. It is very essential to assess the sustainability in order to fulfil the goal. Although there exists various factors which influence the sustainability of any region, the sustainability development can be much influenced by bringing out changes in the natural resources. Thus it becomes essential to assess the conditions of the region by any means.

Remote sensing serves as a best technique to study about any region on a whole. The availability of temporal data enhances our assessment by giving us an opportunity to analyze the changes in the sustainable development over the years.

The Coimbatore city being the Manchester of South India, is a fast growing urban region. Population increase is an evitable challenge which the city is facing today. To provide all basic amenities to the entire outflowing population in the challenging task which the city is going through.

Over the years there has been a vast difference in the climate of the region, which proves to be an effect of lack in sustainability. The balanced use of the resources is much essential for any region to be sustainable. The decrease in forest cover as shown in the results is a very evident proof to declare that the region is lacking in sustainable development. The vegetation cover is another bench mark which shows the poor sustainability of the city.

The Coimbatore city being an industrialized one has a high peak increase in the builtup areas. This eventually decreases the forest cover and the agricultural lands. The depletion in the forest cover proves a major reason for the climate adversity which eventually has lead to poor annual rainfall in the region. This has created a vulnerable indication to the city's water resources. The decrease in the area covering the water bodies over years has made it evident. The city is about to face a very dangerous water crisis in the future if the same situation prevails.

The availability of barren land can be made advantageous by incorporating many beneficial schemes for the sustainable development of the city. The afforestation is the primary solution to increase the city's sustainability. Though many non-government and private organizations take big leaps towards tree plantation, it yet seems to be a challenging one.

Measures should be taken to increase the water resources in all available manner. The major problem which is approaching the city is water crisis which should be considered very before of its arrival. The proper and advantageous usage of barren land can help the city in unexpected manner. Whereas the depromotional usage of the same can push the city to an adversity very soon. The well being of any city can be truly justified only by assessing its sustainability development. Human live on this earth to make himself comfortable with all resources and also to nourish his descendants with the prosperity of the earth. This can be made feasible only if the sustainability is taken into account and the sustainable development is attained.

Sustainability development is the primary goal which every citizen should fulfil in order to safeguard our living, along with the betterment of our future generations. Only when each citizen tries to take step towards the development, the city can escape from the upcoming hazards.

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